This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A voltage control device for connection to an electrical supply having ~~an~~ a variable alternating supply voltage, the device comprising:

an input having an input voltage, said input for connection to the electrical supply;

an output having an output voltage;

means for comparing the output voltage with a predetermined voltage and generating a comparison signal;

means for adjusting the output voltage to increase or decrease the output voltage in response to the comparison signal, said adjusting means being connected to the input and the output;

whereby the output voltage is maintained substantially at the predetermined voltage unless the variable alternating supply voltage falls below the predetermined voltage.

2. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 1, wherein the means for adjusting the output voltage comprises means for delaying the onset of a rise of the output voltage within at least one of the two half-cycles of a waveform of the output voltage.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 2, wherein the delay in the onset of the rise of the output voltage within one half-cycle is controlled independently of the delay in the onset of the rise of the output voltage within the other half-cycle.

5. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 1, wherein the means for adjusting the output voltage comprises a thyristor module.

6. (Original) A device according to claim 5, wherein the thyristor module comprises an antiparallel pair of thyristors.

7. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 1 wherein the means for adjusting the output voltage ~~comprises means for reducing~~ reduces the amplitude of the output voltage within at least one of the two half-cycles of a waveform of the output voltage.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 7, wherein the reduction in the amplitude of the output voltage within one half-cycle is controlled independently of the reduction in the amplitude of the output voltage within the other half-cycle.

10. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 7, wherein the means for reducing the amplitude of the output voltage comprises a variable AC transformer.

11. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 1, further comprising a bypass switch connected across the means for adjusting the output voltage.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 1, further comprising a display for displaying at least one set-up parameter and operating information.

14. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 1, wherein the device is powered by the input voltage.

15. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 1, wherein the electrical supply having ~~an~~ a variable alternating supply voltage is one of (i) a single phase supply voltage and (ii) a multiple phase supply voltage.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 15, wherein the multiple phase supply voltage is a three phase voltage.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling an alternating voltage comprising the steps of:

providing a device having an input which has an input voltage, said input being connected to an electrical supply having ~~an~~ a variable alternating supply voltage and an output having an output voltage;

comparing the output voltage with a predetermined voltage to generate a comparison signal; and

~~adjusting~~ increasing or decreasing the output voltage in response to the comparison signal whereby the output voltage is maintained substantially at the predetermined voltage unless the variable alternating supply voltage falls below the predetermined voltage.

19. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 18 wherein said step of ~~adjusting~~ increasing or decreasing the output voltage comprises delaying the onset of a rise of the output voltage within at least one of the two half-cycles of a waveform of the output voltage.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein the delaying of the onset of the rise of the output voltage within one half-cycle is controlled independently of the delaying of the onset of the rise of the output voltage within the other half-cycle.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein the delay in the onset of the rise of the output voltage is caused by a thyristor module.

23. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 22 wherein the thyristor module comprises a pair of antiparallel thyristors.

24. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 18 wherein said step of ~~adjusting~~ increasing or decreasing the output voltage comprises reducing the amplitude of the

output voltage within at least one of the two half-cycles of a waveform of the output voltage.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 24, wherein the reduction in the amplitude of the output voltage within one half-cycle is controlled independently of the reduction in the amplitude of the output voltage within the other half-cycle.

27. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 24, wherein the reduction of the amplitude of the output voltage is caused by a variable AC transformer.

28. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 18, wherein the predetermined voltage is varied.

29. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 18, wherein the electrical supply having ~~an~~ a variable alternating supply voltage is one of (i) a single phase supply voltage and (ii) a multiple phase supply voltage.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 29, wherein the multiple phase supply voltage is a three-phase voltage.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)